\$75,000 VACCINE OFFER

The following offer is made to US-licensed medical doctors who routinely administer childhood vaccinations and to pharmaceutical company CEOs worldwide:

Jock Doubleday, director of the California 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation Natural Woman, Natural Man, Inc., hereby offers [US]\$75,000.00 to the first medical doctor or pharmaceutical company CEO who publicly drinks a mixture of standard vaccine additive ingredients in the same amount as a six-yearold child is recommended to receive under the year-2005 guidelines of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (In the event that thimerosal has

recently been removed from a particular vaccine, the thimerosal-containing version of that vaccine will be used.)

The mixture will not contain viruses or bacteria dead or alive, but will contain standard vaccine additive ingredients in their usual forms and proportions.

The mixture will include, but will not be limited to, the following ingredients: thimerosal (a mercury derivative), ethylene glycol (antifreeze), phenol (a disinfectant dye), benzethonium chloride (a disinfectant), formaldehyde (a preservative and disinfectant), and aluminum [aluminium].

The mixture will be prepared by Jock Doubleday, three medical professionals



that he names, and three medical professionals that the participant names.

The mixture will be body weight calibrated.

Because the participant is either a professional caregiver who routinely administers childhood vaccinations, or a pharmaceutical company CEO whose business is, in part, the sale of childhood vaccines, it is understood by all parties that the participant considers all vaccine additive ingredients to be safe and that the participant considers any mixture containing these ingredients to be safe...

(Source: Press release, 1 August 2006, http://www.spontaneouscreation.org/SC/\$75, 000VaccineOffer.htm)



TONGUES ON THE MIND

For a practice that's been around for thousands of years, scientists understand very little about what goes on when people "speak in tongues". Currently, glossolalia, as it's called, can be found in various Christian sects, where those affected believe they are communicating with God. Now scientists say they have captured glossolalia on brain scans.

To conduct the study, psychiatrist Andrew Newberg of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia recruited five African-American women who belong to a local Pentecostal congregation. All had been in the habit of speaking in tongues "almost on a daily basis" for the past five years, said Newberg.

As a control activity, subjects stood and sang gospel songs with musical accompaniment, moving their arms and swaying. Then they were asked to repeat the behaviour, but this time the researchers encouraged them to speak in tongues rather than sing.

In each case, the scientists gave the subjects an intravenous injection of a radioactive tracer that provided, in effect, a freeze-frame of which brain areas were most active during the behaviour, as indicated by increased blood flow. This was captured by then scanning the women's brains in a single photon emission computed tomography (SPECT) machine. Glossolalia produced a significantly different pattern of brain activity than singing, the team reports in the November issue of *Psychiatry Research: Neuroimaging*.

Perhaps the most important difference was a decrease in frontal lobe function, Newberg says. "The part of the brain that normally makes them feel in control has been essentially shut down."

Another notable change was increased activity in the parietal region—the part of the brain, he says, that "takes sensory information and tries to create a sense of self and how you relate to the rest of the world".

The findings make sense, Newberg concludes, because speaking in tongues involves relinquishing control while gaining a "very intense experience of how the self relates to God".

Interestingly, he notes that the glossolalia

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responses were the opposite of those seen in subjects in a meditative state.

Newberg has found that when people meditate on a particular sacred object, their frontal lobe activity increases while their parietal activity goes down. This conforms with the notion that in meditation one has a controlled focus while losing a sense of self.

(Source: ScienceNOW Daily News, 2 November 2006, http://tinyurl.com/y2zwo3)

ROBOT SOLDIERS: THE FUTURE OF WARFARE

The US Department of Defense plans to have one-third of its fighting strength composed of robots by 2015—part of a US\$127 billion project known as Future Combat Systems (FCS), a transformation that is part of the largest technology project in American history.

The US Army has already developed around 20 remotely controlled Unmanned Ground Systems that can be controlled by a laptop from around a mile away, and the US Navy and US Air Force are working on a similar number of systems with varying ranges. The US military has 2,500 uncrewed systems deployed in conflicts around the world. The plan is for the first completely autonomous robot soldiers to stride onto the battlefield by 2035.

The United States is not alone. Around the globe, 32 countries are now working on the development of uncrewed systems. In the UK, QinetiQ, the former Defence Research Agency which owns Foster-Miller (manufacturer of the Talon system), confirmed that it has developed remotecontrolled bulldozers and earthmovers and that its technology could also be installed in tanks.

Scientists at QinetiQ told the *Guardian* two years ago that it had built a robot fighter plane. They said that when flown on test flights, the fighter is accompanied by two crewed fighters whose role is to shoot it down if it malfunctions. (*Source:* The Guardian, 26 October 2006)

CHINA FIRES LASERS TO DISABLE US SPY SATELLITES

China has secretly fired powerful laser weapons designed to disable American spy satellites by "blinding" their sensitive surveillance device.

News of the hitherto unreported attacks has been kept secret by the Bush administration for fear that it would damage attempts to co-opt China in diplomatic offensives against North Korea and Iran. Sources say that there was a fierce internal battle within Washington over whether to make the attacks public.

According to senior American officials: "China not only has the capability, but has exercised it."

American satellites like the giant *Keyhole* craft have come under attack "several times" in recent years. The United States military has been so alarmed by the Chinese activity that it has begun test attacks against its own satellites to determine the severity of the threat.

There has been increasing alarm in parts of the US military establishment over China's growing ambitions. Military experts have already noted that Chinese military expenditure is increasingly designed to challenge American military pre-eminence by investing in weaponry that can attack key systems such as aircraft carriers and satellites.

(Source: Daily Telegraph, UK, 26 September 2006, http://tinyurl.com/qxbgq)

PRESS FREEDOM PRIVILEGE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

Hailed as "probably the most significant decision ever in the UK favouring freedom of speech", a unanimous judgement from the House of Lords has installed a public interest defence for serious investigative journalism, so long as the material is published responsibly and even if the material proves to be incorrect or cannot be proved to be true. The ruling radically revises the approach taken by the UK courts in this area.

Mohammed Jameel, a billionaire Saudi car dealer, had been identified by the *Wall Street Journal* in a front-page story as a holder of bank accounts which were the subject of monitoring at the request of United States authorities so as to ensure that funds were not being provided, whether intentionally or unwittingly, to terrorist organisations. The newspaper could not prove the truth of its story at trial because its sources in Saudi Arabia were reluctant to give evidence.

The House of Lords nonetheless ruled that because the material was of public importance and had been published fairly and responsibly, a public interest privilege should be attached to it, thereby excusing the publisher from liability for defamation.

In a statement unlikely to be heard in an Australian court, the five Law Lords said that judges, with leisure and hindsight, should not second-guess editorial decisions made in busy newsrooms.

The decision by the House of Lords provides a stark contrast with the more limited and narrowly construed form of public comment defence available in Australia, which is derived from the "implied freedom of political communication" in our Constitution and preserved in the new uniform defamation This implied freedom is laws. comparatively weaker than the positive rights to free speech provided by the UK Bill of Rights and the European Convention on Human Rights. (Source: Crikey.com, 13 October 2006)



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RUSSIAN MIRACLE WATER CLAIMED TO CURE CANCER

De-ionised or "dead" water was first mentioned as a study project back in the 1990s, at a time when the theories of two professors from the Science Centre of Applied Research (SCAR)—Valentine Samoylov and Oleg Zaymidoroga—were looked at as fairytales.

"At first we were taking it from the ordinary kitchen faucet," explains Oleg, the owner of a mini-lab in Dubna.

"Of course, it did not become de-ionised water right away. We had to free it of metal ions, micro-organisms and other junk.

"It began with my experiments in Italy in the field of physics. I had to design such water for the research that would contain no radioactive traces and no micro-organisms. So we began purifying the regular tap water. We passed it through the filter and then removed the 95% of metal ions. Then next step was to remove the rest of the radioactive ions from the heavy isotopes of oxygen and hydrogen. Finally, we got rid of the dead bodies of micro-organisms and ended up with super-pure de-ionised water that is thousands of times more sterile than any artificial solution.

"So I thought: what if I try to clean the encrustation inside the teapot with that water? I took it to my wife and she poured the substance into the old boiling pot that had nearly one kilogram of old scale inside of it. After boiling the purified water in it, all the encrustation came off. I realised all of a sudden that one could clean the polluted nuclear reactors this way, as well as human [blood] vessels."

The scientists immediately took their product to the Surgical Institute of Vishnevsky and the St Petersburg Institute RAN. The biochemical tests showed that the miracle water can cure infections and tumours.

"In the case of cancer, this water has the power to affect the bio-energetic molecule ATF, which is responsible for cell division. So when a cancer patient receives the deionised water injection, the ATF molecule no longer misses the moment of random cell multiplication. The tumour growth will be stopped.

"But as for drinking the de-ionised water by itself, one should be very cautious doing that. If you drink too much of it, it will wash out all the calcium–magnesium salt from the system and your knees will begin to hurt. This is medicine, and should be treated accordingly."

(Source: Pravda, 24 October 2006, http://tinyurl.com/sogk8)

EUROPEAN ARMY PROPOSAL

In his first major foreign policy speech since becoming leader of Germany's Social Democrats, Kurt Beck said Europe should become a "global peace power" with its own military command and goals, and called for a European army with a single



command. If adopted, it could lead to the European Union's pursuit of a security and defence policy independent of NATO.

Dr Pál Dunay, security expert at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, says: "The problem is not with NATO as such, but how the alliance has become almost a toolbox for the US."

By airing the idea of an integrated European force, Beck has revived a debate that only three years ago was seen as a threat to the basis of the trans-Atlantic relationship.

At that time, President Jacques Chirac of France, Gerhard Schröder, who was Chancellor of Germany, and the leaders of Belgium and Luxembourg, all of whom opposed the US-led invasion of Iraq, proposed an EU military headquarters. NATO said that would be a direct threat to the alliance and the trans-Atlantic relationship.

Since then, the idea had been placed on the back-burner because Britain, Poland and some other countries opposed a single European command, arguing that it would be at the expense of NATO.

(Source: International Herald Tribune, 7 November 2006, http://tinyurl.com/yfc5d2)

PLANET MARS IS WARMING!

The planet Mars is undergoing significant global warming, which supports many climatologists' claims that the Earth's modest warming during the past century is due to a recent upsurge in solar energy, says James M. Taylor of the Heartland Institute in Chicago, USA.

A 20 September 2005 NASA press release states that for three Mars summers in a row, deposits of frozen carbon dioxide near the planet's south pole have shrunk from the previous year's size, suggesting that a climate change is in progress, said Taylor.

Furthermore, documented changes from 1999 to 2005 show that the Mars climate is presently warmer, and perhaps getting warmer still, than it was several decades (or centuries) ago. Scientists are not sure whether the Martian warming is entirely due to Mars-specific forces or may be the result of other forces, e.g., increasing solar output—which would also explain much of the recent asserted warming of the Earth.

"We don't know what the Sun will do in the future," Duke University associate research scientist Nicola Scafetta stated in a 30 September news release announcing that the Sun's direct role in global warming may

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be underestimated. "For now, if our analysis is correct, I think it is important to correct the climate models so that they include reliable sensitivity to solar activity."

Iain Murray, senior fellow and global warming specialist at the Competitive Enterprise Institute, said the Mars warming adds another level of uncertainty to claims that the Earth's modest recent warming is a result of human activity.

"It is probably too much to claim that any one source is the principal driver of the warming trend on Earth," said Murray. (Source: Daily Policy Digest, 10 January 2006, http://tinyurl.com/9zlml)

IS BIG PHARMA CALLING THE MEDICAL JOURNALS' SHOTS? Money talks, and the drug industry's dollar talks loud and clear through the pages of leading medical journals. That's the conclusion of Peter Gøtzsche and his team at the Nordic Cochrane Centre in Copenhagen, Denmark, who compared reviews of drug studies funded by pharmaceutical companies with similar reviews done without industry support.

Studies conducted without drug industry funding reached similar conclusions to the systematic reviews held in the Cochrane online database, recognised as the gold standard for such analyses. Studies backed by drug companies, however, tended to recommend the experimental drug without reservation, even though the estimated effect of the treatment was similar, on average, to that reported in the Cochrane reviews.

Gøtzsche says that some industry-funded reviews were also biased in their methods, as they considered only studies held in the company's own database.

(Source: New Scientist, 14 October 2006)

ECSTASY FOR PARKINSON'S?

It seems that ecstasy boosts the number of dopamine-producing cells in the brain the type that declines in those with Parkinson's disease.

Previous human studies have suggested that ecstasy is bad for the brain because it damages serotonin-signalling neurons, which play a role in memory. Jack Lipton of the University of Cincinnati and his colleagues found that ecstasy prevents the programmed cell death that normally occurs when neurons are stressed, as happens in certain degenerative diseases including Parkinson's and in cell cultures. (Source: New Scientist, 27 October 2006)

NATURAL MEDICINES: THE SAFEST WAY TO AVOID DEATH

Areport released on 12 October by the Acting Chair of the Coroners' Council, New Zealand, has shown that natural medicines have the lowest fatality rate of all medical treatments in New Zealand.

Despite extensive research, Coroner Dr Wallace Bain found that no deaths have occurred in New Zealand due to natural medicines such as vitamins, minerals and herbal products.

Dr Bain, who is also a trained pharmacist and lawyer, undertook the study in the light of growing opposition to new legislation that will see New Zealand's natural health industry come under Australian laws. The safety of natural products is often cited as a reason for the need for such a move.

The NZ Labour government plans that the Australia New Zealand Therapeutic Products Authority (ANZTPA) will soon replace the current Medsafe agency as part of a "trans-Tasman harmonisation" push. Opponents fear this move will decimate New Zealand's natural health industry, as has already occurred in Australia.

At present, lack of support from New Zealand First, the Maori and Green parties is the only thing stopping the legislation coming into effect.

Says Dr Bain: "In my capacity as Acting Chair of the Coroner's Council, I enquired of all Coroners as to whether or not from a search of their Coronial findings they could find any instances where there had been a problem with any of these natural products. They were asked to provide any information from inquests where these products had been involved, whether or not a death had resulted. At the same time, the Coronial records held by the Ministry of Justice in Wellington were searched at my request by ministry staff."

Dr Bain's study returned a finding of zero deaths from natural remedies.

In contrast, deaths in 1998 (the last year of detailed official statistics available) caused by adverse reactions to pharmaceutical drugs killed 1,524 New Zealanders, and deaths associated with medical injury (mistakes by doctors and medical staff) killed 4,222 New Zealanders.

Says Dr Bain: "A recent Australian study shows that 1 in 10 patients presenting to a general practitioner had an adverse pharmaceutical drug event in the preceding six months, with 50% of those being in the moderate to severe range and 8% requiring hospitalisation.

"A New Zealand study reported in July of 2006 and referred to Parliament's Health Committee pointed to previous research suggesting problems such as hospital-acquired infection, drug error and staff mistakes are costing this country around NZ\$870 million a year. This prompted the Health Minister to ensure that District Health Boards gave priority to reducing such adverse events—most clearly identified as being drug induced."

Also in Dr Bain's report is mention of a US study that puts complications resulting from medication errors in American hospitals at US\$1.5 billion dollars per year. Studies also show that prescription drug errors double a person's risk of dying in hospital. Another study put the cost of a single adverse drug event to a hospital in the US at US\$2,500.

"The estimate of costs incurred by US hospitals as a result of drug-related injury or death was put at US\$76.6 billion, which was three times the cost of all diabetes care in the United States," says Dr Bain.

"What is ironic here is that what is being held out as a justification for high regulation and compliance in the area of complementary medicines and natural products in New Zealand is public safety and risk. Despite a diligent search of Coronial records and the literature, no instances have been found to demonstrate that in fact these products have any serious public health issue or risk.

"The problem is clearly with prescription and other drugs," says Dr Bain. "The Coronial and literature searches, in so far as natural products are concerned, and linkages to public safety and risk can be described legally as *de minimis non curat lex*; that is, of minimal risk importance.

"The law does not and should not concern itself with such trifles."

(Source: Press release, Coroners' Council, New Zealand, 12 October 2006, via http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/GE0610/S00037.htm)